

day patrolling the now leafy bog myrtle beds netting seven specimens and seeing a few others. We kept one female alive and from ova that she laid obtained a number of pupae. We also flushed three *Diacrisia sannio* L. at this locality, including a single female which later oviposited. I was especially pleased to take my first specimen of *Aricia artaxerxes artaxerxes* F. when netting an unidentified grey insect which was being pursued by a *Coenonympha pamphilus* L. and obviously an early forerunner of the brood, as this and other suitable areas near-by failed to produce more.

Dragging ourselves away from this productive spot, we now visited the nearby *Coenocalpe lapidata* Hübn. colony where we swept all types of vegetation in the hope of discovering this elusive larva but met with no success, though among miscellaneous larvae we did notice a few *Lycia lapponaria* Boisd. obtained from bog myrtle. Although now mid-afternoon, we again drove to Rannoch for a last try for more *scoliaeformis* pupae, but despite our developing a better technique in locating these hidden workings over the ensuing four hours, little was added to our original number, as over a dozen were found to have recently emerged and as usual parasites had taken their toll as well; also, among the larvae found were some probably destined for next season's emergence.

Back at Trinafour that evening after dinner we caught up on some setting, until midnight when we deemed the time right for another try for *lapidata*, but once again we spent a cold and unprofitable hour sweeping and searching by torch-light, seeing much the same species as at our earlier attempt and we were forced to admit our first failure of the holiday, consoling ourselves with the thought that as far as we are aware no one else has located these larvae in the wild either!

We packed up and left Trinafour next morning, passing reluctantly through the bog myrtle areas in sunshine on our way south, but as we intended trying for one more species further down in Scotland, we were unable to spend time looking to see if more *nigrescens* and *artaxerxes* had emerged.

Our final quarry was the larva of *Epione paralellaria* D. & S., and reaching the locality by early afternoon, managed to sweep 13 small larvae of this species from dwarf willow from which we later reared the moths. Thus ended a very successful holiday and we finally left Scotland and headed homewards. Two *scoliaeformis* emerged on our journey back, and it was nice to find *occulta* just starting to emerge from our pupae on arriving home.

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LARVAE OF *PIERIS BRASSICAE* L. AT CHRISTMAS. — Referring to the extraordinary winter, while staying in Ferndown, Dorset at Christmas, I noted a number of larvae of *Pieris brassicae* Linn (Large White butterfly) still feeding on cabbage in the garden. Several others were crawling up the walls of the house and garage. There were a few fresh chrysalids on the walls. — G. H. YOU DEN, 18 Castle Avenue, Dover, Kent.